## EMPLOYER STATUS DETERMINATION Columbia Basin Railroad Co., Inc. (CBRC)

This is the determination of the Railroad Retirement Board regarding status of Columbia Basin Railroad Company, Inc. (CBRC) as an employer under the Railroad Retirement Act (45 U.S.C. §231 et seq.) (RRA) and Railroad Unemployment Insurance Act (45 U.S.C. §351 et seq.)(RUIA).

According to CBRC Controller Todd Leinbach, CBRC commenced operations as a shortline railroad on December 4, 1996. Information contained in Surface Transportation Board Finance Docket No. 33140 indicates that CBRC operates over approximately 65.4 route miles of rail line extending form milepost 186.09 at Connell, Washington (WA), interchanging with the Burlington Northern Santa Fe, to milepost 147.3 at Wheeler, WA; then from milepost 0.0 at Basset Junction, WA to milepost 12.5 at Schrag, WA; from milepost 18.3 at Moses Lake, WA to milepost 5.0 at Sieler, WA; and from milepost 5.0 at Sieler, WA to milepost 0.0 at Wheeler, WA. CBRC also has incidental trackage rights over 13 miles of rail line extending from milepost 1989.0 at Othello, WA to milepost 1976.0 at Warden, WA. It expects to compensate approximately 25 employees under EIN 91-1722121.

Information in the record establishes that CBRC began operations on December 4, 1996. Accordingly, the Board finds that effective with the start of business, December 4, 1996, Columbia Basin Railroad Co., Inc., became a covered employer under the RRA and the RUIA.

Glen L. Bower

V. M. Speakman, Jr.